

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 SECTO 13104

FOR TARNOFF

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) SCUL, WHO, US
SUBJ: RETURN OF CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN - THE
SECRETARY'S STATEMENT AND TOAST

REF: STATE 311198, TOSEC 130036

1. FOLLOWING ARE REVISED TEXTS OF STATEMENT AND
TOAST. THEY ARE NOW WITH SECRETARY. PLEASE CABLE
IMMEDIATE ANY SUGGESTED SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES FROM
MATT, EUR, OR OTHER CROWN FREAKS.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF STATEMENT:

3. RETURN OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN
 SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

4. IT IS OFTEN SAID THAT AMERICA IS A NATION OF
NATIONS, AND INDEED WE HAVE GROWN AND PROSPERED
BECAUSE OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PEOPLE FROM ALL
OVER THE WORLD. WE HAVE DRAWN COURAGE AND INSPIRATION
FROM THOSE WHO HAVE COME FROM OTHER NATIONS TO SETTLE
IN AMERICA, OR TO OFFER US THEIR HELP.

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5. THROUGHOUT TWO CENTURIES OF COMMON HISTORY, THE
HUNGARIAN AND AMERICAN PEOPLES HAVE FREQUENTLY LINKED
THEIR DESTINIES. OUR INFANT REPUBLIC, STRUGGLING IN
ITS WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, WELCOMED COL. MICHAEL KOVATS,
WHO HELPED TO FOUND AND TRAIN THE CAVALRY FORCES OF
GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON AND WHO GAVE HIS LIFE FOR

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE AT THE BATTLE OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA. HISTORIANS TELL US THAT HUNGARIAN JOURNALS OF THE DAY WERE FULL OF DETAILED REPORTS OF AMERICA'S STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE.

6. SLIGHTLY MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY LATER, AMERICANS RESPONDED TO THE NEWS OF PETOFI AND KOSSUTH AND THE FOUNDING OF A HUNGARIAN REPUBLIC. NOT ONLY DID OUR REPUBLIC RECOGNIZE THE HUNGARIAN REPUBLIC, BUT IT BECAME THE ONLY COUNTRY TO ACCREDIT A DIPLOMATIC MINISTER TO THAT GOVERNMENT.

7. WHEN THE REPUBLIC WAS CRUSHED, AMERICA WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS THE STRUGGLE'S GREATEST HERO, LOUIS KOSSUTH, WHO WAS HONORED ALL OVER OUR COUNTRY. THE IMPACT OF THIS GREAT MAN AND HIS IDEALS IS STILL SEEN IN THE MANY AMERICAN CITIES, VILLAGES AND COUNTIES WHICH BEAR HIS PROUD NAME.

8. A CENTURY AGO WORSENING ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN EUROPE AND THE PULL OF NEW LAND, NEW OPPORTUNITY AND FREEDOM IN THE UNITED STATES BECKONED MANY PEOPLE OF HUNGARY. INDEED, THIS FIRST GREAT WAVE OF IMMIGRATION FROM HUNGARY TO THE UNITED STATES -- WHICH LASTED UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR -- BROUGHT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HUNGARIANS TO OUR COUNTRY.
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THEY BECAME FARMERS AND SKILLED WORKERS; THEY DUG IN OUR MINES; THEY BECAME BUSINESSMEN AND SCIENTISTS AND LEADERS IN THE ARTS.

9. TWICE IN THIS CENTURY, OUR ALLIANCES BROUGHT US INTO WORLD WARS ON OPPOSITE SIDES. BUT THE BASIC FRIENDSHIP OF OUR PEOPLES WAS NOT ALTERED.

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 SECTO 13104

10. IN 1919, IN POST-WAR BUDAPEST, THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIED POWERS, GENERAL HARRY BANDHOLTZ, PERSONALLY PLACED HIS OWN LIFE IN JEOPARDY AND STOOD IN THE PORTAL TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF HUNGARY TO PROTECT AND DEFEND HUNGARY'S NATIONAL TREASURES.

11. IN 1944, AS THE BATTLE LINES MOVED WESTWARD INTO HUNGARY, THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN AND OTHER CORONATION REGALIA WERE MOVED FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL PLACE OF SAFEKEEPING IN BUDAPEST TO WESTERN HUNGARY UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THEIR CUSTODIAL GUARD. FINALLY ON MARCH 25, 1945, THEY WERE MOVED BY THE GUARD FROM HUNGARIAN SOIL AND TAKEN INTO AUSTRIA. AT THE CLOSE OF WORLD WAR II THE CROWN GUARD TURNED OVER THE CROWN AND REGALIA TO ELEMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY FOR SAFEKEEPING. IN THIS WAY, OUR DESTINIES AGAIN WERE LINKED.

12. WE ACCEPTED THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SAFEGUARDING THE CROWN, WHEN EVENTS PLACED THAT RESPONSIBILITY UPON US. WE DID SO IN THE KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF
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THAT THE CROWN BELONGS TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE.

13. THIS HISTORICAL TREASURE, WHICH HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE HUNGARIAN NATION'S HISTORY FOR NEARLY ONE THOUSAND YEARS, SHOULD BE IN HUNGARY FOR ITS PEOPLE AND FOR PEOPLE EVERYWHERE TO CHERISH.

14. THE RETURN OF THE CROWN REFLECTS AND ENCOURAGES IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS, AND RESPONDS TO THE NATIONAL HOPES OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE. THE CROWN IS A SYMBOL OF THE SPIRIT AND THE FAITH AND THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF HUNGARY. WE

ALSO HOPE THAT IT WILL FOSTER THE SPIRIT OF THE
HELSINKI FINAL ACT, TO WHICH THE AMERICAN AND
HUNGARIAN PEOPLES ARE FUNDAMENTALLY DEDICATED.

15. AND SO, MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS MY UNIQUE PRIVILEGE,
ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES, REPRESENTED HERE BY SEVERAL DIS-
TINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED
STATES AND OTHER HONORED AND DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN
CITIZENS, TO RETURN TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE THE
CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN AND CORONATION REGALIA OF
HUNGARY.

16. END TEXT OF STATEMENT

17. BEGIN TEXT OF TOAST:

18. DRAFT TOAST FOR BUDAPEST

19. MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

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20. LET ME FIRST THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, FOR THE
WARMTH OF YOUR WELCOME.

21. TODAY HAS BEEN A MOVING AND MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE
FOR ALL OF US.

22. THESE HOURS ARE AN INSTANT IN THE LONG HISTORY
OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE -- AND JUST A MOMENT IN THE
HISTORY OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN. YET THIS IS A
DAY WHICH WILL NOT SOON BE FORGOTTEN. FEW TIMES
SINCE THE ELEVENTH CENTURY HAS THE CROWN LEFT
HUNGARIAN SOIL. TODAY, ONCE AGAIN, IT HAS RETURNED
TO THE PEOPLE WHOSE SOVEREIGNTY, COURAGE AND LOVE OF
COUNTRY IT REPRESENTS.

23. TODAY'S EVENT COMES AT A TIME OF IMPROVING
RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. OUR DIFFERENCES
DO NOT DIM OUR MUTUAL DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO ENHANCE

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 SECTO 13104

OUR OFFICIAL COOPERATION ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, AS WELL AS ON POLITICAL QUESTIONS.
EQUALLY ENCOURAGING, THE TIES BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES
BECOME EVER MORE SECURE.

24. THESE TIES ARE STRENGTHENED BY THE CONTRIBUTIONS
TO AMERICAN SOCIETY MADE BY SO MANY SONS AND DAUGHTERS
OF HUNGARY. DISTINGUISHED INVENTORS, SCIENTISTS,
MUSICIANS, MEN AND WOMEN OF VISION AND
CULTURE, THEY HAVE EMBODIED WITHIN MY OWN COUNTRY
THE SKILLS AND SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE OF YOURS. WE
ARE HONORED AT THE PRESENCE OF DIS-
TINGUISHED HUNGARIAN-AMERICANS IN OUR DELEGATION HERE
TONIGHT.

25. I THINK THAT ALL OF US WERE MOVED BY THE DIGNITY
AND FEELINGS THAT SURROUNDED THE CEREMONIES THIS
AFTERNOON. BOTH OUR COUNTRIES MAY BE PROUD THAT,
BEFITTING THE DIGNITY VESTED IN THE CROWN, IT DID NOT
BECOME A POLITICAL ISSUE BETWEEN US. IT WAS NATURAL
THAT WHEN OUR RELATIONS IMPROVED, WE WOULD SEIZE
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN IT TO ITS HOME.

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26. MR. PRESIDENT, THE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS
REFLECTS THE BROADER OPPORTUNITIES FOR
PEACEFUL COOPERATION NOW PRESENTED ON THE EUROPEAN
CONTINENT, AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

27. IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CON-

REFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, WE ARE BOTH PLEDGED TO PEACE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF BETTER RELATIONS AMONG OURSELVES AND OTHER SIGNATORIES, AS WELL AS TO THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF OUR CITIZENS. MANY OF THE GROWING NUMBER OF AMERICAN-HUNGARIAN EXCHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. OTHER ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND HUMAN CONTACTS HAVE FLOWED INDIRECTLY FROM HELSINKI OR HAVE BEEN FAVORABLY INFLUENCED BY THAT HISTORIC MEETING.

28. HELSINKI WAS A PART OF THE WIDER PROCESS OF DETENTE. AS PRESIDENT CARTER HAS AFFIRMED IN HIS STATEMENTS, AND IN SUCH ACTS AS HIS RECENT VISIT IN POLAND, THE UNITED STATES IS DETERMINED TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE OF EAST-WEST POLITICAL RELATIONS, TO MOVE TOWARD BALANCED AND EFFECTIVE REDUCTIONS IN ARMAMENTS AND TO OBTAIN LASTING SOLUTIONS TO EAST-WEST DIFFERENCES. NEXT WEEK AMERICAN AND SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES WILL RESUME THEIR IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS AND OTHER ARMS-CONTROL OPPORTUNITIES.

29. MR. PRESIDENT, MANY HEADS AND MANY HANDS HAVE BORNE THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN. THE UNITED STATES HAS KEPT IT SAFE AND BROUGHT IT BACK TO HUNGARY, IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT IT BELONGS TO THE HUNGARIAN
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PEOPLE AND REPRESENTS THE HUNGARIAN NATION. ITS DISPLAY HERE WILL SYMBOLIZE THE SPIRIT OF NATIONAL PRIDE AND INDEPENDENCE OF YOUR PEOPLE, AS ITS RETURN SYMBOLIZES OUR HOPES FOR A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD. EACH OF US ON OUR DELEGATION IS HONORED TO HAVE BEEN A PART OF THIS HISTORIC MOMENT.

30. MR. PRESIDENT, I PROPOSE A TOAST TO YOUR HEALTH, TO THE LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE, TO THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES, AND -- TO THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN.

END TEXT OF TOAST.
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